

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Gerald SANCHEZ et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCING  
A METALLIC COATING ON AN OBJECT  
EMERGING FROM A BATH OF MOLTEN METAL

#24  
8/24/01  
MN

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation  
of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

A<sup>1</sup>

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1,  
characterized in that the exit channel is constructed in such  
a way that the annular gap is of the same order as the height  
of the meniscus, the annular gap being the distance between  
the inside wall of the exit channel and the metallic coating  
formed beyond the meniscus.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

A<sup>2</sup>

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1,  
characterized in that the exit channel is constructed so that  
the ratio between the average thickness of the said object